AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 59. New claim 73 is inserted and claims 60-72 are dependent upon claim 73 or upon a claim that is dependent upon claim 73.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. – 59. (Canceled)

60.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 wherein the illumination pattern is multi-colored.

61.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 60 wherein the multi-colored illumination pattern is produced by a single LED.

62.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 wherein at least two stages have multi-colored LEDs that are triggered to provide a multi-colored illumination pattern.

63.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 further comprising a second event and a second illumination pattern and upon occurrence of the second event, triggering the LEDs of at least one stage to provide the second illumination pattern.

64.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 62 further comprising the step of:

triggering the LEDs of a first stage upon occurrence of the first event and triggering the LEDs of a second stage upon occurrence of the second event.

65.	(Currently Amended) The method of claim 62 further comprising the steps of:

programming an operation sequence including the first and second events; and

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triggering the operation sequence in order to display the first illumination pattern upon occurrence of the first event and the second illumination pattern upon occurrence of the second event.

66.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 further comprising the steps of:

programming the processor to trigger a single color illumination upon the occurrence of a second event; and

triggering the LEDs of at least one stage to provide the single color illumination.

67.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 wherein the triggering occurs automatically upon occurrence of the first event.

68.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 wherein the LEDs include at least one of a red, yellow or green colored LED.

69.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 further comprising the steps of:

controlling the processor via a network or computer system that is coupled to multiple gaming machines.

70.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 wherein the first event includes one of a jackpot, bonus round, currency needed or special player present situation.

71.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59 73 further comprising the steps of:

coordinating the processor with the gaming machine play functions in order to sense the first event;

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signaling an I/O interface;

signaling a coding buffer system;

signaling a pulse width modulator; and

controlling a current driver in order to control the LEDs according to the multi-colored illumination pattern.

72.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~59~~ 73 wherein a user input panel is provided by the gaming machine and the method further comprising the steps of:

selecting the illumination pattern via the user input panel; and

selecting the first event to trigger the illumination pattern, via the user input panel.

73.   (New) A method of illuminating a candle of a gaming machine comprising:

providing a candle having (a) a first stage and (b) a second stage vertically aligned with said first stage;

providing a plurality of multi-colored LEDs within said first stage;

providing a plurality of multi-colored LEDs within said second stage;

mounting the candle to a gaming machine;

connecting said LEDs of said first stage and said second stage to a processor associated with the gaming machine;

programming the processor to remotely trigger one or more of the multi-colored LEDs within at least one stage to provide a selected color illumination pattern upon occurrence of a first event of the gaming machine.